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REMARKS

This is a full and timely response to the non-final Office Action mailed December 19, 2005. Claims 57-59, 61, 63-65, 92-98, and 101-103 have been canceled; and claims 104-124 are added. The new claims correct minor informalities with respect to the canceled claims. Reconsideration and allowance of the application and presently pending claims are respectfully requested in view of the foregoing remarks. Applicants should not be presumed to agree with any statements made in this Office Action unless otherwise specifically indicated by Applicants.

I. Priority

The Office Action states that Applicants' claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §119(e) is acknowledged. The Office Action also states, however, that the Provisional Application No. 60/214,987, upon which priority is claimed fails to provide adequate support under 35 U.S.C. §112 for claims 57-59, 61, 63-65, 92-98, and 101-103 of the application. Applicants do not wish to address the validity of this issue regarding priority at this time, but reserve the right to respond to this issue in a later response. It should not be presumed that Applicants agree with the assertions made in this Office Action regarding priority.

II. Response to Arguments

The Office Action seems to suggest that after selecting a movie, e.g. "Ronin", from a program guide, a listing of the selected title is presented. The Office Action also seems to suggest that the actual presentation of the title is the same as the "second selectable option" as claimed. Applicants disagree with this suggestion since, among other things, the presentation of a mere listing of a movie title is not the same as a "selectable option". White et al. merely displays the title after selection of the movie, and does not teach or suggest that this presentation or display of the title is a selectable option.

III. Response to Claim Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 59, 61, 63-65, 95, 96, 98, 101, and 103 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over White et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,628,302) in view of Watts et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,324,694). Also, claims 57, 58, 94, and 97 were rejected under 35 U.S.C.

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§103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over White et al. in view of Watts et al. and further in view of Abecassis (U.S. Patent No. 6,408,128). In addition, claims 92 and 93 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over White et al. in view of Watts et al. and further in view of Adams (U.S. Patent No. 6,378,130). Also, claim 102 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over White et al. in view of Watts et al. and further in view of Dunn et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,861,906).

Since these claims have been canceled herein, the rejection of these claims is rendered moot. Regarding new claims 104-124, Applicants respectfully submit that the combination of White et al. and Watts et al. fail to teach or suggest all of the claimed features of independent claim 104, as discussed below.

Independent claim 104 is reproduced below:

104. A method implemented by a television set-top-terminal ("STT") configured to receive a video program from a remote server, the method comprising:

storing by the STT a plurality of streams corresponding to the video program from the remote server, the plurality of streams including a first set of streams and a supplementary data stream that is different than the streams in the first set of streams, the first set of streams including at least an audio stream and a video stream, the supplementary data stream corresponding to supplementary information;

providing a first selectable option to receive the video program from a plurality of video programs;

receiving a first viewer input from a viewer, the first viewer input being configured to select the first selectable option;

responsive to receiving the first viewer input, providing a second selectable option to receive the supplementary data stream in the STT, wherein the second selectable option is first provided after receipt of the first viewer input and as a direct result of receiving the first user input;

receiving a second viewer input from a viewer responsive to providing the second selectable option;

communicating with the remote server by the STT via a first transmission frequency channel to receive the plurality of streams,

receiving a respective sequential portion of each stream in the plurality of streams substantially simultaneously via a tuner in the STT tuned to the first transmission frequency channel,

storing the sequential portions of the supplementary data stream and each stream in the first set of streams into respective sections of a memory in the STT, and

presenting the sequential portions of the supplementary data stream and the audio stream and the video stream of the video program in the first set of streams in their respective decoded form simultaneously at a plurality of respective time intervals corresponding to respective portions of the video program; and

responsive to receiving the second viewer input corresponding to a viewer input that is different than a viewer input corresponding to selecting the second selectable option,

receiving a respective sequential portion of each stream in the plurality of streams substantially simultaneously via a tuner in the STT tuned to the first transmission frequency channel,

rejecting the supplementary data stream at the STT,

storing the sequential portions of each stream of the first set of streams into respective sections of the memory in the STT, and

presenting the sequential portions of the audio stream and the video stream of the video program of the first set of streams in their respective decoded form simultaneously at a plurality of respective time intervals corresponding to respective portions of the video program.

(Emphasis Added)

White et al. and Watts et al., taken alone or in combination, fail to teach or suggest the above-highlighted features of independent claim 104. Particularly, claim 104 recites storing by the STT a plurality of streams corresponding to the video program from the remote server, the

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plurality of streams including a first set of streams and a supplementary data stream that is different than the streams in the first set of streams, the first set of streams including at least an audio stream and a video stream, the supplementary data stream corresponding to supplementary information. White et al. does not store a plurality of streams, where the plurality of streams includes both 1) a first set of streams including an audio stream and a video stream, and 2) a supplementary data stream corresponding to supplementary information. Instead, White et al., arguendo, appears to transmit video data and interactive service information independently and appears to be silent concerning storing ... a plurality of streams ... including a first set of streams and a supplementary data stream. Watts et al. also fails to teach or suggest storing a plurality of streams, where the plurality streams includes both a first set of streams and a supplementary data stream as defined in the claims.

In addition, claim 104 recites responsive to receiving the first viewer input, providing a second selectable option to receive the supplementary data stream in the STT, wherein the second selectable option is first provided after receipt of the first viewer input and as a direct result of receiving the first user input. White et al. does not teach or suggest providing a second selectable option to receive the supplementary data stream after receipt of the first viewer input and as a direct result of receiving the first user input. Instead, when a video has been selected, White et al. appears to provide a display panel 74 (col. 4, lines 39-40), not a selectable option to receive a supplementary data stream, as claimed. Watts et al. appears to receive, arguendo, primary content data 107 and subsidiary data 117 from different sources and fails to teach or suggest providing a second selectable option after receipt of a first viewer input.

Furthermore, claim 104 recites responsive to receiving the second viewer input corresponding to a viewer input that is different than a viewer input corresponding to selecting the second selectable option, ... rejecting the supplementary data stream at the STT. White et al. and Watts et al. both appear to be silent concerning this feature of the claim. Particularly, these references do not store the plurality of streams including a first set of streams and a supplementary data stream, as mentioned above, and also rejecting this supplementary data stream responsive to receiving the second viewer input corresponding to a viewer input that is different than a viewer input corresponding to selecting the second selectable option.

For at least these reasons, Applicants assert that White et al. and Watts et al. fail to teach or suggest all the features of claim 104 and that claim 104 is therefore allowable. Furthermore, Applicants contend that Abecassis, Adams, and Dunn et al. fail to overcome the deficiencies of White et al. and Watts et al. as discussed above.

With respect to the arguments in the Office Action concerning claims 57, 58, 94, and 97, Applicants respectfully traverse the statements and findings of well-known art, known art, and other statements interpreted similarly. Particularly, the Office Action indicates "known forms of supplemental data including director commentaries". Applicants traverse this implication that supplemental data including director commentaries are known forms. Applicants contend that such forms are too complex in the related arts to be considered known.

Also, the Office Action states that Abecassis includes a "showing of a fact that it is known in the art of video distribution to present supplemental content 'during at least one time interval corresponding to the appearance time of a visual object contained in the video program". Applicants traverse this statement concerning the time that supplemental content is presented. Applicants contend that such time limitations are too complex in the related arts to be considered known.

The Office Action further states the possible inherency of "utilizing video chapters in a video-on-demand presentation..." Applicants traverse this suggestion and contend that video chapters are not inherent in VOD presentation, because such features are not required in VOD presentations.

Also, the Office Action states that "supplemental content is known to be used in connection with explaining how a magic trick was performed." Applicants traverse this statement concerning supplemental content. Furthermore, Applicants contend that supplemental content being used in connection with explaining how a magic trick is performed is not known in the related arts because such features would be too complex to be considered known.

Therefore, it is respectfully requested that Examiner withdraw the statement concerning inherency and known art. If Examiner continues to hold to these or any other matters concerning known art, Applicants respectfully request that sufficient evidence in support thereof be provided.

Since the prior art of record does not teach or suggest the highlighted features of claim 104 as shown above, it is believed that claim 104 is allowable over the combination of references taken as a whole. In addition, claims 105-124 are believed to be allowable for at least the reason that they depend directly or indirectly from allowable independent claim 104.

CONCLUSION

Any other statements in the Office Action that are not explicitly addressed herein are not intended to be admitted. In addition, any and all findings of inherency are traversed as not having been shown to be necessarily present. Furthermore, any and all findings of well-known art and official notice, or statements interpreted similarly, should not be considered well known for at least the specific and particular reason that the Office Action does not include specific factual findings predicated on sound technical and scientific reasoning to support such conclusions.

Applicants respectfully maintain that the currently pending claims are in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner have any comments or suggestions that would place the subject patent application in better condition for allowance, he is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned attorney at (770) 933-9500.

Respectfylly submitted

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